



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
CALIFORNIA DIVISION
980 Ninth Street, Suite 400
Sacramento, CA. 95814-2724
June 4, 2001

IN REPLY REFER TO
HDA-CA
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Mr. Jeff Morales, Director
CALTRANS, 1120 N Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Attention: Federal Resources Branch, Room 3500
For Mr. Rambabu Bavirisetty, Transportation Programming

Dear Mr. Morales:

SUBJECT: SANDAG 2000/01 – 2002/03 FTIP/FSTIP AMENDMENT NO. 8

We have completed our review of Amendment No. 8 to the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) 2000/01-2002/03 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) that was submitted by your letter dated May 9, 2001. The SANDAG Board of Directors adopted Resolution No. 2001-39 on April 27, 2001, approving these program modifications and reaffirming the conformity of the transportation improvement program with the Regional Air Quality Strategy and the State Implementation Plan (SIP) for air quality. This amendment modifies FTIP programming for the local highway element in San Diego County. The proposed amendment modifies the Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP), as described below.

- Reprograms \$2.28 million of Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) program funds from FY 2001 to FY 2002 for the construction of Phase I of the 22-mile regional Escondido-Oceanside Rail Trail project (e.g. bikeway project from the Escondido Transit Center to the Oceanside Transit Center). The amendment also adds \$8.15 million of previously reserved regional State Transportation Improvement Program (regional STIP) fund shares for the regional bikeway project in FY 2002.
- Reprograms \$1.113 million of Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) program funds from FY 2001 to FY 2002 for the construction of the portion of the Bayshore Bikeway project between 'E' Street in Chula Vista and the existing bike path on the north levee of the Sweetwater River. This amendment also adds \$1.0 million of previously reserved regional State Transportation Improvement Program (regional STIP) fund shares for the Bayshore Bikeway project in FY 2002.

We find that the changes to the Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP) proposed by this SANDAG Transportation Improvement Program amendment were developed through a process in accord with the provisions of 23 U.S.C. 134 and Chapter 53 of 49 U.S.C. Because these funding modifications pertain to previously programmed bicycle and pedestrian

facilities projects that are consistent with the types of projects listed in Tables 2 of 40 CFR Section 93.126, we have determined that these transportation improvement program modifications are exempt from regional emissions analysis requirements pursuant to the provisions of sections 93.126 of Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations. These planning and conformity findings have been coordinated with the regional offices of the Environmental Protection Agency and Federal Transit Administration.

We are approving this amendment in accordance with the procedures outlined in the joint FHWA/FTA Memorandum of Understanding on single mode TIP amendments dated March 8, 1996. This letter constitutes approval for inclusion of the subject SANDAG transportation improvement program amendment into California's 2000/01 – 2002/03 FSTIP.

Sincerely,

/s/ Wade Hobbs

For

Michael G. Ritchie

Division Administrator

cc:

EPA Region IX, Charnjit Bhullar

FTA Region IX, Tim Pennington

SANDAG TIP Binder

SANDAG, Sookyung Kim

Caltrans:

Federal Resources Branch, Dick Petrie

HQ Transportation Programming, Greg Wong ✓

Office of Local Programs, Terry Abbott